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Synopsis of Mineral Characters. By Ralph W. Richards. New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1907. Pp. 99.

This is a compact little book, strongly bound in leather, and of convenient size for the pocket. Minerals, mineralogical terms and tests, are all arranged alphabetically. The descriptions are concise and accurate and include all the more essential properties of the species described. The book will be useful both to students in the laboratory and field, and to miners and others who are interested in minerals.

C. W. W.

Fifty-seventh Annual Report of the New York State Museums for 1903, containing the Twenty-third Report of the State Geologist, 1903. Albany, N. Y., 1905.

Contains articles on peat, the gypsum industry, abrasives, distribution of Hudson Schist and Harrison Diorite in part of the Oyster Bay quadrangle, the northeast extremity of the pre-Cambrian Highlands. In the appendices are "The Geology of the Vicinity of Little Falls, Herkimer Co.," by H. P. Cushing; "New York Mineral Localities," by H. P. Whitlock; "Report of the State Paleontologist, 1903," by J. M. Clarke; "Feeding Habits and Growth of *Venus mercenaria*," J. L. Kellogg.

Molybdenum. By E. C. Andrews. Pamphlet No. 4, Geological Survey, Mineral Resources, Department of Mines and Agriculture, New South Wales. Pp. 17. Sydney, 1906.

The ore of molybdenum is molybdenite in quartz. It is directly associated with intrusions of fine "sandy" granite about which the ore forms contact deposits. One mine produces practically all the molybdenite from New South Wales. Its output in 1904 was 25¼ tons, value £2,726.

Cambrian Faunas of China. By Charles D. Walcott. (Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum, Vol. XXIX, pp. 1–106. Washington, D. C., 1905.)

Faunas embracing 48 genera and 172 species are listed from three formations in the upper and middle Cambrian. Five new genera and about 125 new species and varieties are described. The upper Cambrian faunas are related to those of North America and northwestern Europe. This is a preliminary report, published in advance of a fuller one with plates, that will appear this year.

C. W. W.

The Petroleum Industry of Southeastern Illinois. By W. S. BLATCHLEY. Bulletin No. 2, Illinois State Geological Survey. Pp. 109, 5 plates. Urbana, Ill., 1906.

The report discusses the history of the petroleum industry in Illinois, the oil-producing rocks and their structure, theories of origin, mode of occurrence, and production of oil in the state. There is also a description of the various oil and gas fields. C. W. W.

The Composition and Character of Illinois Coals. By S. W. PARR. *The Distribution of the Coal Beds of the State.* By A. BEMENT. *Tests of Illinois Coals under Steam Boilers.* By L. P. BRECKENRIDGE. Bulletin No. 3, Illinois State Geological Survey, Pp. 86. Urbana, Ill., 1906.

Geology and Mineral Resources of Mississippi. By A. F. CRIDER. (Bulletin No. 283, U. S. Geological Survey. Pp. 99, 4 plates, including a colored geological map of the state.) Washington, D. C., 1906.

Four Cretaceous, seven Tertiary, and two Quaternary formations are described, generally with especial reference to their economic possibilities. The mineral resources include clays (which furnish nine-tenths of the state's income from mineral sources), ochre, glass-sand, cement rocks, and iron-ore. C. W. W.

Clays: Their Occurrence, Properties and Uses, with Especial Reference to Those of the United States. By HEINRICH RIES. New York: John Wiley & Sons. London: Chapman & Hall, Limited. 1906, pp. 290, 44 plates.

This book is a summary of our present knowledge of clays. It treats of the origin and the chemical and physical properties of clays, the kinds of clays, and the methods of mining and manufacture. The occurrences of clay are described by states, the clays of each geological period being treated separately. C. W. W.

Igneous Rocks of the Eastern Townships of Quebec. By JOHN A. DRESSER. (Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, Vol. XVII, pp. 497–522, Plates 67, 68.) Rochester, N. Y., 1906.

The rocks of southeastern Quebec present two petrographic provinces: I. (*a*) Porphyry-andesite series, extrusive and probably pre-Cambrian;

(*b*) Diabase-serpentine group, early Cambrian to late Silurian; (*c*) Granites, intrusive, late Devonian; (*d*) Later dikes. II. The Alkaline province of the Monteregian hills described by Adams. C. W. W.

Investigations Relating to Clays. By the UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY in 1905. (Extract from Bulletin No. 285, Contributions to Economic Geology, 1905.)

Contains: "Clays of Garland County, Ark.," by Edwin C. Eckel; "Clay Resources of Northeastern Kentucky," by W. C. Phalen; "Clays of Western Kentucky and Tennessee," by A. F. Crider; "Clays of the Penobscot Bay Region, Maine," by E. S. Bastin; "Clays of Cape Cod, Massachusetts," by Myron L. Fuller; "Notes on Clays and Shales in Central Pennsylvania," by George H. Ashley; "Bentonite of the Laramie Basin, Wyoming," by C. E. Siebenthal. C. W. W.

The Eurypterus Shales of the Shawangunk Mountains in Eastern New York. By JOHN M. CLARKE. Bulletin 107, N. Y. State Museum, pp. 295–310, plates 1–8. Albany, N. Y., 1907.

This important little paper gives conclusive paleontologic evidence for transferring the stratigraphic position of the Shawangunk Grit from the base of the Silurian to the Salina. C. A. Hartnagel had already reached the same conclusion from stratigraphic studies. His views are presented in another paper in the same bulletin. C. W. W.

Geology of Diamond Head, Oahu, Mokokea Caldera. By C. H. HITCHCOCK. (Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, pp. 469–96, plates 59–66.) Rochester, N. Y., 1906.

"Diamond Head is a tuff cone thrown up explosively from beneath the level of the sea, and is to be compared with the Monte Nuovo, near Naples. It was ejected through fossiliferous limestones of Tertiary age, probably Pliocene."

Mokokea Caldera is on the southwest slope of Mauna Loa. The order of events in its history is given, including recent eruptions.

C. W. W.